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JOHN DE B. LANCASTER, Acting Local Manager.

Hongkong, 27th December 1916.



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130

TEUTONIC MENTALISM

A DANISH VIEW.

Professor Bang of Denmark, author of a book called "Hurrah and Hallelujah" sets forth in advance of the public of that interesting work in English fundamental thesis. He would do and expose the root of the matter. It is what must have appeared to all intelligent Allies, and most intelligent neutrals, the utterly incomprehensible attitude of the Germans. Thus the root of the matter is the peculiarly concentrated and fiercely held national belief. This has been sedulously fostered during the last years, has been so consonant with the leading characteristics of Teutonic Mentalism, and has seemed to find its confirmation in the material development of the Empire and defence accorded in all other countries to its intellectual achievements, that is no wonder it has become a part of the national being. It would be impossible for the present at any time to eradicate this faith from any German and leave him still a German. It would be to excise his heart and leave him alive.

In briefly indicating some of its bearings upon the psychological and intellectual aspects of the war, as well upon the concrete side, the mode of inception and conduct, it is not easy to avoid touching upon what many of our informed readers must think threadbare stuff, and treading ways already trodden. It cannot be denied that when the German Government, which was in the beginning responsible for, and throughout underlain, the more startling aspects of the great war will be a fact of first importance to be reckoned with before any hope of an enduring peace can be entertained and its foundation securely laid. It is well then to see, naked, and so trace and understand the inevitable application in the practical sphere. Much which has so far seemed inexplicable, or sheer unadulterated wickedness, will be better understood and preferable to a perfectly logical extension in all directions of what we at least must condemn as a thoroughly unsound basis. Throughout the course of human thought in the West, traceable in all great culture streams, it makes its appearance and its consequences are always much the same in kind, though varying greatly in degree.

THE MAJOR PREMISES. No one has ever argued better than the trained Medieval schoolmen. But the often repeated most ridiculous conclusion, "Fetters all the world over, and it is usually the major premise, which is of vital importance. There never has been an instance of pure fanaticism or the grand national scale to compare with that of the Central Powers. Certainly there has never been a case of a great people so thoroughly and insane upon the fundamental pivot of all their national thought, and as a result, in the possible limits of its practical application. From the outbreak of the war German apologists have been the wonder of the rest of the world and, persisted in as they are, with a vehemence of conviction apparently blind to every staring fact, have induced something very like mental stupor in those who study them.

We have been insistently denouncing the German campaign of lies, and judged by all ordinary canons of proof, they surely are lies. Contemporaneously the combined intellect of Germany, not a negligible force, has been denouncing England as the arch liar, and the specially favoured child of the Devil, the father of all lies. We believe that we entered into, and have since been waging this war, upon very definite and honourable principles. And if we are right, it follows necessarily that the principles of the Central Powers must be the exact reverse. So far from this being conceded in Germany, no German really believes it. Every German, man, woman, and child, is as sure as he is of his existence that England was the aggressor, that Germany has from the first been fighting a desperate fight for national existence against the malign purpose of England, which does not stop short of crushing her out of national existence. We have charged Germany with unimaginable atrocities. The Germans not only deny the facts, but retort the same charges against the Allies, and of course more particularly against England. But, as will presently appear, this issue, from the German point of view, is not to be decided upon mere proof of facts. Facts which we describe as inhuman and atrocious, even were they proved, would have quite different qualities weighed in the German scale, and referred to the single great Truth which has now become the basis and primary article of all German faith. Merely setting one assertion against another, charge and counter charge, helps but little to throw light upon this appalling welter of confused thought. What is needed is some clue to the labyrinth, if we are to regain our confidence in any general standards of morality and correct thinking. As things stand, we are all very much in the position of mathematicians wrangling over the summation of extremely complicated figures, to which each side attaches totally different values.

THE GERMAN CREED. The German domestic proposition is this. In virtue of her clear and indisputable (if not undisputed) cultural superiority (and under the convenient word "cultural" is included all moral, intellectual and material pre-eminence) Germany has the right, wherever, and whenever she chooses to exercise it, to rule the rest of the world. If any other nation should resist the imposition of the German will, it must be rigorously enforced at all costs, and by any means, in the ultimate interests of so stupid and misguided a nation. This is no exaggeration. This simple formula will cover every case, just as do the formulas of Christian science, once we consent to let the terms pass unchallenged. Let us put it syllogistically from the German standpoint. Speaking nationally Germany is good, purely good. Germany is

(Continued at foot of next column.)

THE SHREWD AMIR.

WHAT HAPPENED TO A GERMAN MISSION.

A pretty story of German intrigue in the East which has gone astray was unfolded by Mr. Austen Chamberlain in the House of Commons recently.

In the spring of 1915, he said, the German Government decided to send a mission to Afghanistan. They selected a number of Indian Anarchists in Berlin and a young landowner from Oudh who was proposed to them as a ruling chief and as such was received in audience by the Emperor. The mission was composed of these men, of Turks, and of German officers, the principal one of whom (Lieutenant von Hentig) was the bearer of a letter from the German Chancellor to the Amir asking his advice as to the best way in which India might be relieved from British tyranny.

The mission broke up in Persia and succeeded in making its way in small parties into Afghanistan. They were arrested on arrival—(laughter)—and eventually conveyed to Kabul towards the end of the year. There was reason to believe that the Amir and his people quickly appraised these Germans, and the Indian adventurers by whom they were accompanied, at their true value.

The intervention of Turkey placed the Amir in a difficult position, but at the outbreak of war the Amir gave up his neutrality, and he had loyally kept his word. (Cheers.) The Amir had firmly refused inducements held out to him to forsake his Ally and had used his influence to prevent disturbances on the frontier. (Cheers.) The Amir dismissed the mission in May last.

It would not be in the public interest to state what has become of these various emissaries, but some of them have been captured by the Russians and the British, concluded Mr. Chamberlain amid the general laughter of members. The estates of the Indian landowner had been sequestered.

all; therefore nothing that Germany does can possibly be evil. It can only be thought to be so temporarily, owing to the deplorable ignorance of imaginary sufferers. As soon as their darkness has been sufficiently enlightened by German methods, they will see, and rejoice in the Truth.

Germans have for centuries been honoured as leaders of criticism. But there is one thing no German can forget, pursuing this analysis, that in one point the German mind has through-out been irreproachable. It has never flinched at the logical application of its great credo. Neither intellect nor ethic, nor Religion has been able to erect any fence over which it could not leap without hesitation or doubt.

ITS RELIGIOUS INFLUENCE. Let us see how this works in one important domain, that of Religion. Here, it can hardly be denied, that it is a source of strength to the German clergy, and tides them over much that causes heart searching among orthodox Christians in other countries. One of the bitterest complaints, audible from a hundred German pulpits, has been that a nominally Christian people like the English have Allied themselves unscrupulously, in order to overthrow Germany, with yellow heathen like the Japanese, with the idolaters of India, and have even gone so far as to invite the peoples of India to offer up prayers to heathen gods in heathen temples for the success of the Allied arms. That was all very well before Germany in turn Allied herself with Turkey. But the ingenious ethnologists and Christologists of Germany were not daunted. They set their busy brains to work, and almost as fast as printing presses could work, they flooded the country with convincing proof that the Turks were to all intents and purposes, always had been, good Christians. We find the German clergy unanimous, not only in acclaiming the war as from the German standpoint most righteous and Christian, but in the main, in the reasoning by which this comforting conclusion is reached. "The English Church can never lose sight of the great injunction to love your enemies. That does not trouble the German clergy. The churchmen of the Allies have never been able whole-heartedly to appropriate and monopolize the Christian God. Naturally this would from the very nature of the case have been difficult. English, French and Russians and Italians, or so many of them as are professing Christians, can draw no distinctions between the God of one nation and that of the other. But the Germans are in a very different position. They are the chosen people, once more, just as in old Testament history the Jews were the chosen and protected people of Jahveh. Being, as we have said the only embodiment of the Nationally Good, it follows inevitably that they are identified nationally with the only Good God, and that any one who resists or makes war upon them is an emissary of the Devil. Now Christian theology does not forbid one to hate the Devil and all his works. Chief among the manifest works of the Devil to-day according to the best accredited German theology, is the English people. Therefore, they ought to be hated. And from one end of Germany to the other the gospel of hate has been preached and embraced with a fiery enthusiasm, to which no parallel can be found among the Allies. When we compare the mild beatitudes of many of our eminent divines, professors, and pacifists, with Lissauer's Hymn of Hate, we may dimly sense the enormous difference which has existed from the entrance of England into the war between the driving power at the back of the German, and of the English armies.

CINEMA AND MORALS.

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY.

The Cinematograph Trade Council, representing the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association of Great Britain and Ireland (Limited), the Incorporated Association of Cinematograph Manufacturers (Limited), and the Kinematograph Renters' Society of Great Britain and Ireland (Limited), having unanimously petitioned the National Council of Public Morals to institute an independent inquiry into the physical, social, educational, and moral influences of the cinema, with special reference to young people, the National Council has, after careful consideration, decided to do so, and has invited the following, amongst others, to constitute the Commission:—

President, the Lord Bishop of Birmingham.

Sir Edward W. Brabrook, C.B., chairman of Child Study Society.

The Right Rev. Monsignor Canon W. F. Brown.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P.

C. W. Crook, B.A., B.Sc., president of the National Union of Teachers.

Sir W. F. Barrett, F.R.S.

Principal Alfred Garvie, M.A., D.D., New College, University of London.

The Rabbi Prof. H. Gollancz, M.A., D.Lit., representing the Jewish Community.

Dr. C. W. Kimmins, M.A., his Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools.

Mr. W. Gavazzi King, secretary, Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association.

Sir John Kirk, J.P., director of the Ragged School Union.

Mr. Sidney Lamert, director and general manager, the London Film Company (Ltd.).

Rev. F. B. Meyer, B.A., D.D., representing the National Free Church Council.

Mr. A. E. Newbould, chairman, Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association; director, Provincial Cinematograph Theatres (Ltd.).

C. W. Saleeby, M.D., F.R.S., Edin.

Mary Scharlieb, M.S., M.D.

Rev. Carey Bonner, secretary of the Sunday School Union.

Mrs. J. Burghin.

Rev. James Marchant, F.R.S., Edin.

The Commission is to consider:

1. The present position and future development of the cinematograph, with special reference to its social and educational value and possibilities.

2. To investigate the nature and extent of the complaints which have been made against cinematograph exhibitions, and to consider conditions of Sunday opening, etc.

3. To publish the evidence taken, together with its findings and recommendations.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

Classes I, II, and IV will attend at Headquarters' Club for examination, at 5.30 p.m. on the following dates:—

Monday, January 8th.—Class I. (Chief Inspector Kerr).

Wednesday, January 10th.—Class II. (Inspector Gordon).

Friday, January 12th.—Class IV. (Inspector P. O'Sullivan).

PARADES, CENTRAL, 5.30 p.m.

Monday, January 8th.—All Recruits.

Tuesday, January 9th.—Maxim Gunners.

Wednesday January 10th.—All Recruits.

MOUNTED POLICE.

The Drill ordered for Friday, January 5th, is cancelled.

Joined.—Trooper 795 A. G. Connor and Trooper 795 A. S. Campbell.

Will parade at Queen's Statue, Chater Road, at 5.15 p.m. sharp on Tuesday, January 9th. Uniform, caps, rifles.

The Band will attend.

The O.C. Company will take charge. (Sgd.) F. C. JENKIN, D.S.P. (R.).

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE.

Y.M.C.A. DIVISION.

Company Drill. Tuesday and Thursday, 8 p.m.

VACCINATION.

Members who have been instructed as Vaccinators will attend for public duty at their Headquarters (Chinese Y.M.C.A.) on Friday, the 5th inst., at 7.30 p.m. when a Vaccination Station will be established.

Members of other Divisions who desire to give their services may attend as above for instruction.

During the week ending January 13th, public vaccination duty will be carried out as below:—

Monday, 7.30-9.30 p.m. L. Corporal Wei Kan; Privates Kwok Kwai Fong, Fung Lung, Chan Sin Chor and Poon Sai So.

Tuesday, 7.30-9.30 p.m. Sergeant So Sin On; Privates Hung Wang Sang, Poon Yi Wai, and Leung Wing Chor.

Wednesday, 7.30-9.30 p.m. Sergeant Ho Leison; Privates Chan Wang, Poon Yun Sang, and Ng Ping Nam.

Thursday, 7.30-9.30 p.m. Privates Lo Kwok Fi, Cheng Yiu and Au Hon Kwong.

Friday, 7.30-9.30 p.m. L. Corporal Seto Chung; Privates Ho Hoi Leung, Mak Siu Ting and Mak Pui Chi.

Saturday, 7.30-9.30 p.m. Sergeant So Siu On; Privates Ho Tse Siu, Tsang Kon Sang, and Chiu Fu Sang. (Sgd.) E. RALPHS, (Officer in Charge of District.) Hongkong, January 4th, 1917.

COSTLY ZEPPELIN RAIDS.

Mr. H. Patrick Devitte, the Daily Express correspondent at Geneva, writes:—"I learn from Romashorn, on Lake Constance, that the destruction of two more Zeppelins, making a total of four in November, has caused consternation in Southern Germany, especially at Friedrichshafen, whence the majority of the experts in the crews are drawn. The opinion is growing that Zeppelins are useless as an offensive force."

According to one German estimate the latest Zeppelin cost £254,000 each.

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

2 NEW HOUSES now Building in Canton Road. Ready for occupation on 1st February, 1917. For rent and other particulars apply to—

H. M. H. NEMAZEE, 1 Des Vœux Road. [108]

TO LET.

No. 42, ELGIN STREET.

Apply to—PERCY SMITH, SETH & FLEMING. [102]

TO LET—AT THE PEAK.

FURNISHED, 3, Stewart Terrace.

Apply—

H. E. POLLOCK, Princess Buildings. 97

TO LET.

FLATS in "EWO MESS," No. 8, TRA. PEAK.

Apply, Property Office, JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd. [100]

TO LET.

GODOWN in Duddell Street. Light and airy Offices overlooking Statue Square. Moderate rent.

For rent and other particulars apply to—

"H." Case of "Daily Press" Office. [88]

TO LET.

From 1st May.

OFFICES, 2nd Floor, St. George's Buildings.

Apply to—SHEWAN, TOMES & Co. [69]

TO LET.

OFFICES on 1st Floor, No. 3, Queen's Road Central, at present in the occupation of The China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

Apply to—CHINA FIRE INSURANCE Co., Ltd. [72]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road Central.

OFFICES in King's and York Buildings, HOUSES in Clifton Gardens, Conduit Road, HOUSES in Broadwood and Moreton Terraces.

Apply to—THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY Co., Ltd. [28]

TO LET.

FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon.

TO LET OR FOR SALE.

KOWLOON MARINE LOT 48 with wharf area 58,000 sq. ft., suitable for Coal Storage or erection of Godowns.

Apply to—HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd., Alexandra Buildings. [106]

TO LET.

No. 5, MOUNTAIN VIEW, PEAK.

"GLENIFFER," 6, Harkow Road, Kowloon. No. 3, CAMERON VILLAS, No. 63, Tse PEAK, Furnished.

8-ROOMED HOUSE at Mount Kellett. Furnished for 5 or 6 months.

No. 25, SHELLY STREET.

No. 12, BEACONSFIELD ARCADE SHOP.

No. 3, CAMERON VILLAS, 63, PEAK.

KELLETTS CREST, 96, PEAK.

"HARTING," Austin Road, Kowloon.

No. 25, BEACONSFIELD TERRACE, with entrance on Conduit Road.

TWO GODOWNS in Duddell Street.

No. 2, DES VŒUX VILLAS, 51, PEAK. (Unfurnished).

No. 56, THE PEAK (5 CAMERON VILLAS).

Apply to—LINSFORD & DAVIS, 3rd Floor, Alexandra Buildings. 30

WANTED.

ENGINEER, Br. abstrainer, for Harbour or Shop. Apply in own writing with copy, ref., stating age and salary required to—

W. S. BAILEY & Co. Ltd., Kowloon. [105]

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

TODAY.

Noon—Green Island Cement Co., Ltd., Extraordinary General Meeting at the Office of Messrs. Shaw, Thomas & Co.

TO-MORROW.

9 p.m.—Boxing at the Theatre Royal.

Monday, 8th Jan.—

3 p.m.—Auction of Crown Land at Pe'lio Works Dept.

TO THE LADIES.

Pinkettes are a boon, ensuring daily regularity, thus removing the causes of sick headaches, biliousness, facial eruptions and ill-smelling breath.

PINKETTES

the dainty little gentle-as-nature laxatives, are obtainable from chemists, or, post free, 80 cents the phial, from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 96, Sechen Road, Shanghai.

81-91

HONGKONG POLICE AT THE FRONT.**AN INTERESTING LETTER.**

More news of the Hongkong Police at the front in France has been received in a letter written by Sergt. Pattison, of King Edward's Horse, to a colleague in Hongkong.

In the letter, Sergt. Pattison says that he had just left Drury, who is serving with the K.R.R.C., Drury having been staying in the same village for two days. The letter adds:—"His corps has just gone back for a rest after just being 'over the top' in the recent success. He gave me quite a lot of information about the other boys of his regiment, Wakeford, Wilson, Carpenter, Painting and Allchurch (all being killed), while Spillett, Barnett and Bloor are at 'Blighty,' wounded. Spillett is slightly wounded, but the other two are pretty bad. Booker is in the 2nd Battalion as a machine-gun sergeant. Shuftain is at Home and he has been awarded the D.C.M. Drury is wearing the Military Medal and three stripes. . . . Dis-bury was doing troop-cook's work when he hurt his hand, and he has been sent down to the base with a poisoned hand. Speed and Hedge are still at Longford. Hedge is due out any time now. Speed, I am afraid, will never see France. He is not able to ride, with his knee being so bad, and he has not passed the riding school. He came out of hospital only last week, so I am informed by letter. The boys in the K.E.H. are all going strong and in the best of health. The weather has broken now and we get it very cold, especially at nights. It's quite different to old Hongkong. We are having a lot of German wounded through here just now, and do you know they are treated the same as our own men. They sail past in the cars all smiles and hand waves; indeed, they all seem to be jolly pleased to be captured. I think I told you in my last letter that Hutchins had been transferred to the R.E.s. Well, he came back a few days ago, and now Reynolds has gone to the R.E., but it is only for a while."

HONGKONG WEDDING.**TOD-SACHSE.**

The wedding was solemnized at St. John's Cathedral on Wednesday of Mr. P. Tod (of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., Ltd.), eldest son of Mrs. H. Tod, of Shanghai, and Miss Freda Nancy Lennox, younger daughter of the late Mr. George Sachse and Mrs. Sachse, Hongkong.

The bride, who was given away by Mr. John Robertson (brother-in-law), wore a dress of white tulle with veil and orange blossom, and an old lace cape, which had been the property of her great grandmother. Mrs. John Robertson, sister of the bride, was the matron of honour, and she wore a dress of blue tulle, and a black velvet picture hat. The best man was Mr. Alan Stewart. The bride's mother was attired in a gown of blue and black striped satin, with black velvet hat and sables. Mrs. Harry Tod, the bridegroom's mother, wore lavender satin with a black velvet hat, and carried a bouquet of violets. Mr. Denman Fuller played the wedding music. The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. Copley Moyle, M.A.

After the ceremony a reception was held at Kingsclere, the residence of Mrs. Sachse, and later in the day Mr. and Mrs. Tod left for Taipei, where the honeymoon is being spent.

SPORT.**CRICKET.****H.K.C.C. v. CIVIL SERVICE.**

To be played on the Club ground to-morrow at 2.15 p.m. The following will represent H.K.C.C.:—T. E. Pearce (Capt.), R. M. Austin, F. D. Bischoff, F. W. S. Evans, J. Glaister, P. Jacks, M. M. Maas, Lt. Col. Morgan, H. E. Muriel, F. Sutton and H. H. Taylor.

FOOTBALL.**CLUB v. K.S.L.I.**

The Club will be opposed to K.S.L.I. in a U. S. League game on Saturday, when they will be represented by the following:—Goldenberg, Black, and McCubbin; Ralston, Stewart, and Bailton; Robinson, Chasels, Stalker, McTavish and Rodger. Kick-off, 4 p.m.

Consumers of electric current and wiring contractors are warned by advertisement against the danger of making any additions to existing installations, as the Hongkong Electric Co.'s generating plant is now carrying nearly its maximum load.

COMBATING SMALL-POX. GOOD WORK BY THE CHINESE.

When the official reports of the campaign against small-pox in Hongkong in 1916 come to be written, much will have to be said of the indefatigable work performed by "Dr." Tso and his staff of Chinese medical undergraduates and others in the most affected areas. "Dr." Tso is a well-known solicitor, but when the small-pox epidemic began to assume alarming proportions he at once forsook his legal work, marshalled a band of Chinese medical men, and set himself the task of combatting, in conjunction with the Sanitary Board staff, the small-pox outbreak. First of all, the Chinese had to be informed of the preventive properties of vaccination, and, when this had been done, the next task was to get them to come forward voluntarily to be operated upon. In this "Dr." Tso and his staff were so successful that they found themselves busily engaged from early morning until late in the evening, and, at one time, they dealt with, on an average, 8,000 persons each week. During the last two weeks, for instance, 15,412 people have been vaccinated, and all these have come from blocks of buildings between Western Street and Eastern Street. "Dr." Tso, who is President of the Western Public Dispensary, has been ably assisted by Messrs. Chung Wing Choi, Fuk Wing Kan and Wing Tsze Chun, whose *ad hoc* vaccination stations in the Western district are being kept exceedingly busy throughout the day. Quite recently, also, they have been joined by Dr. Li Chuen, of Macao, who has temporarily relinquished his Macao practice in order to take part in the campaign for suppressing small-pox in Hongkong.

In a recent report, "Dr." Tso stated that the "one bright spot on a darkened horizon is the fact that a Chinese has reported a case of small-pox voluntarily." The Chinese who have small-pox cases in their homes do their utmost to hide the fact, chiefly owing to their dislike of disinfection. Mr. Tso and his assistants, in addition to their vaccination campaign, are also doing their level best to impress upon the Chinese the necessity for at once reporting a small-pox case, and, so far, they have made very fair progress. In some special cases they have brought joy to the hearts of householders by allowing a case to be treated at home, and, when this is done, a notice is posted on the door of the house warning all and sundry that the house contains a small-pox case.

As a result of this campaign in the Western district, which is the area principally affected, Mr. Tso is of the opinion that a turning point has been reached, and that the authorities will shortly be able to report a substantial decrease in the number of cases.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE.**SEVEN NEW SCHOLARSHIPS.**

The current issue of the *Yellow Dragon*, the Queen's College magazine, states that the College has benefited; owing to the munificence of her Old Boys, to the extent of seven new scholarships. Five of these were given jointly by Messrs. Ho Wing, Ho Yu and Ho Kwong, while the other two were given by Mr. Lee Hy-san. The donors have also kindly asked that their benefactions be retrospective, that is, based on the results of the July Examination. This is an added kindness.

The list of the new Scholarships is as follows:—Ho Wing Scholarship.—Open to Class 5. Value \$25 per annum for two years. Present holder: Tso Wai-hing. Ho Yu Scholarship.—Open to Class 5. Value \$25 a year for two years. Present holder: Ng Yu-cheung. Ho Kwong Scholarship.—Open to Class 6. Value \$25 a year for two years. Present holder: Wong Hong-kwok. Desai Scholarship.—Open to Class 6. Value \$25 a year for two years. Present holder: Tong Hon-ki. Ralphs Scholarship.—Open to Class 7. Value \$25 a year for two years. Present holder: U. Shun-pui. (The above five scholarships are the gifts of Messrs. Ho Wing, Ho Yu and Ho Kwong.) Lee Hy-san Scholarship.—Open to Class 2. Value \$50 a year for one year. To be awarded for the highest marks in the Annual Examination in Arithmetic, Composition and Literature. Present holder: Lam Wan-jo. Grant Scholarship.—Open to Class 5. Value \$50 a year for one year. Present holder: Wei Tai. (The last two scholarships are the gifts of Mr. Lee Hy-san.)

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending 23rd December, 1916, amounted to 65,284 tons and the sales to 59,768 tons.

WEST RIVER PIRATES. VILLAGERS DRIVEN FROM THEIR HOMES.

Despite all the precautions which were supposed to have been taken by the Government of China, acting in conjunction with the Government of Hongkong, it would seem that there are still many pirates at large along the West River, and that they are plying their illegal profession with great benefit to themselves. Of course, none of the River steamers are molested to any great extent—stray shots sometimes pass over the boats as they pass up and down the river during the night—but gangs of pirates are terrorising the villagers on the banks of the river to such an extent that almost all of them have left their homes, and their crops are allowed to ripen and then decay. Only last week a well-known Hongkong sportsman, who journeyed up the West River on a shooting expedition, caught glimpses of many pirates, and, from a distance of half a mile, also saw a large junk pirated in, as he put it, "real red-blooded pirate style." This was in the vicinity of Wongmoon. It was almost dark, and from a house-bent the Hongkong gentleman and a party of friends were somewhat alarmed at hearing rifle shots. An investigation revealed a piracy in full swing. A long, low boat, manned by about a dozen pirates, was pushing out into the stream, half a mile away, and was making for a large trading junk. Shots were being rapidly exchanged, and, after about half an hour's bombardment, the firing ceased. "In the morning," added our informant, "the junk had disappeared, and nothing was to be seen of the long and narrow boat which had attacked it so vigorously. The junk may have escaped, but the pirates' boat was very speedy, and a very likely happening is that the junk was captured and towed away to a secluded part, where its cargo was removed. There must have been casualties before this was brought about. Wongmoon is an important part of the River, and it is in this vicinity that West River captains have been "sniped" at when passing over the Wongmoon Bar during the night.

The local sportsman was much struck by the generally woe-begone appearance of the country in the neighbourhood. The crops were, in many cases, completely destroyed, oranges were hanging on the trees decaying for want of picking, the villages were empty, and the scene was one of desolation. Enquiries made went to show that the villagers had been driven from their homes by pirate gangs, and also by the "squeeze pidgin" practised by the Chinese police who have been sent down to the neighbourhood in order to clear away the pirates. These police are little better than the pirates themselves. They approach the villagers, ask for money, and if they are refused they threaten the defenceless people with all sorts of awful happenings, chief of which is the giving of them over to the depredations of the pirates. Absolutely no work is being done, and the only person who seemed to have any employment when our informant was up the West River was a rat-catcher; and he was experiencing a very busy and exciting time. "It is a most depressing scene," the sportsman added, "and one cannot help thinking that something should be done, on a really extensive and effective scale, to rid that part of the country of these gangs of pirates, who are a terror to the poor people who eke out an existence from the land; and also the junk people who trade between the small villages on the bank of the river."

HONGKONG SUMMARY COURT.**PARTNER OR FOKI.**

The Chief Justice (Sir William Rees Davies), sitting in Summary Jurisdiction yesterday, heard evidence in an action brought by the San Yik firm, tea-wood dealers, against Leung Lin, as a partner of the Kwong Hok Lung firm, to recover \$221.24, the balance due of an account for goods sold and delivered. Mr. Davidson, solicitor, appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Goldring, solicitor, for the defendant. The case for the plaintiffs was that the defendant had ordered goods to the value of \$481 and had paid the account by instalments up to the balance being sued for. The defence was that defendant was not a partner of the Kwong Hok Lung firm, but only a foki. At the close of the evidence his Lordship gave judgment for the plaintiffs, with costs.

CHARGE AGAINST A CHINESE REVENUE OFFICER. ACCEPTING MONEY UNDER FALSE PRETEXTS.

At the Magistracy, yesterday, Mr. J. R. Wood was engaged hearing evidence in a charge against a Chinese Revenue Officer of accepting money under false pretences.

Inspector Gordon appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Otto Kong Sing, solicitor, conducted the defence. The complainant deposed that on 28th December his junk was lying at the Praya wall at Yaumati while a cargo of charcoal was being discharged. As the work was going on, two men boarded the junk, and, informing him that they were Revenue Officers, told him he had no right to discharge charcoal without a permit. He offered to go to Hongkong and get a permit, whereupon defendant said a permit would not be necessary if witness gave him \$10. Witness replied that he had not \$10, and offered \$1, then \$1.50 and finally \$2, which defendant accepted. The amount was in small silver coins. In accepting the money, defendant said, "Maskee." After paying the money, it occurred to witness that he had never had occasion to get a permit to unload his junk before, and, seeing a Chinese sergeant of police on the wharf, he told him what had happened. The latter went forward to speak to defendant, who, on seeing him approach, threw the money complainant had given him into the sea. Complainant, then got one of his foks to dive for the money and he recovered 85 cents, which was given to the sergeant. Meantime, the other officer who had accompanied the defendant had disappeared.

Cross-examined by Mr. Otto Kong Sing, complainant said his conversation with defendant took place on board the junk from which foks were unloading charcoal. They were too busy to hear what was said. There was an old man on board purchasing charcoal, who both heard and saw.

In reply to the Magistrate, Mr. Otto Kong Sing said the defence was that the money was offered to the Revenue Officer by the complainant and refused, that the complainant chased up the officers with the money in his hand, and that, on his hand being pushed away, the money fell into the sea.

In further cross-examination, complainant denied that when he was asked to produce a permit he offered the defendant \$2 as a bribe. Defendant demanded \$10, and for a time would not hear of less.

The case was adjourned till Monday.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY. CONCEALING SMALL-POX.

For failing to report a case of small-pox in her house a woman was fined \$25 by Mr. Melbourne. Defendant pleaded that she did not know the disease was small-pox, but this plea was inconsistent with the fact that the people in the house had all cleared out.

OPIUM SMOKING.

Ten Chinese appeared before Mr. Melbourne charged with frequenting an opium den at Hungtom. One of them was further charged with keeping the house for opium smoking. All stated that they lived in the house and had not gone there to smoke opium. Two of them were fined \$5 each; the others were discharged.

POSSESSION OF DISEASED PIG.

Yesterday a Chinese was fined \$20 by Mr. Wood at the Magistracy for being in possession of the carcass of a diseased pig with the intention of disposing of it as food. Mr. Gibson, Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, said the carcass was in a very bad state. The animal had died of disease. Defendant pleaded that he meant to use the carcass as food for himself and household.

BANISHEES.

Two banishees, charged with prematurely returning to the Colony, were dealt with by Mr. Wood yesterday. In one case, which was adjourned, the defendant, a Chinese, was deaf and dumb, and it was stated that he had a bad record, having been banished three times within eighteen months. The other charge was against a Chinese, whose record showed that he had served two months' hard labour in 1911 for being a rogue and vagabond, and six months' hard labour in 1913 for prematurely return from banishment. He was committed to the Criminal Sessions.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals acknowledges with thanks the following donations to the funds of the hospitals:—Boarding House Keepers Guild, \$130; Old Clothes Dealers Guild, \$30; and Pupils Bellios Public School, \$25.

INTIMATIONS**LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.**

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SPALDING'S "GOLD MEDAL" TOURNAMENT, VANTAGE.

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[18]

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PRICES DUTY PAID.

QUARTS—\$20.00 per case

of 4 dozen.

or \$5.10 per dozen.

PINTS—\$26.50 per case

of 8 dozen.

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[14-2]

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OF

LADIES' SEMI-EVENING

AND

EVENING FOOTWEAR

NOTE:—ELEGANT BUCKLES TO SUIT ALL STYLES.

[19]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED.

As already notified, this COMPANY'S GENERATING PLANT is now carrying in the vicinity of the maximum load and no further installations can be made for the present. Consumers and Wiring Contractors are warned against the danger of making additions to existing installations and are reminded that under the Regulations for securing the Safety of the Public contained in the Schedule to the Electricity Supply Ordinance 1911 (as amended) "any person making any addition to any electrical installation connected to the Company's main shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Fifty Dollars for every such addition."

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 5th January, 1917. [155]

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held at the Office of Messrs. SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., the General Managers of the Company, St. George's Building, Charter Road, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, TO-DAY (FRIDAY), the Fifth day of January, 1917, at 12 Noon, when the following Resolutions which were passed at Extraordinary Meetings of the said Company held on the Fifteenth day of December, 1916, will be submitted for confirmation as Special Resolutions:

- (1) That the capital of the Company be reduced from \$4,000,000 (Four Million Dollars) divided into 400,000 (Four Hundred Thousand) Shares of \$10 (Ten Dollars) each, to \$3,000,000 (Three Million Dollars) divided into 300,000 (Three Hundred Thousand) Shares of \$10 (Ten Dollars) each, and that such reduction be effected by returning (on such date as the Company's Board of Directors shall appoint) to the holders of the 400,000 (Four Hundred Thousand) Shares that have been issued paid up capital to the extent of \$1,000,000 (One Million Dollars) per Share and by reducing the nominal value of the said Shares from \$10 (Ten Dollars) to \$7.50 (Seven Dollars and Fifty Cents) each, and that such reduction be effected by returning (on such date as the Company's Board of Directors shall appoint) to the holders of the 400,000 (Four Hundred Thousand) Shares that have been issued paid up capital to the extent of \$1,000,000 (One Million Dollars) per Share and by reducing the nominal value of the said Shares from \$10 (Ten Dollars) to \$7.50 (Seven Dollars and Fifty Cents) each.
- (2) That application be made to the Supreme Court of Hongkong to confirm the reduction of the capital of the Company in conformity with the foregoing Resolution.

Dated this 19th day of December, 1916.
By Order of the Board,
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers. [161]

APOLOGY.

WE, MESSRS. LONG HING & CO., Photographic Goods Dealers, 17, Queen's Road Central, Publicly Apologize for the insulting conduct shown towards two European Ladies in our Shop at 5.15 P.M. on THURSDAY, January 2nd, 1917. [149]

UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG.

WANTED.

A MECHANICAL ENGINEER is required by the University of Hongkong, to act as workshop instructor and foreman in the University workshops and engine rooms. Commencing Salary \$250 and quarters. Applications to be made in writing to Professor MANNERS, Secretary, The University, Hongkong, from whom further particulars may be obtained. [150]

NOTICE.

MY Firm hitherto carried on as JOHN MANNERS has this day been formed into a limited company under the style of MANNERS & BACKHOUSE, LTD.
JOHN MANNERS,
Hongkong, 1st January, 1917. [132]

NOTICE.

WE HAVE THIS day taken over the Firm of JOHN MANNERS, which will be carried on under the style of MANNERS & BACKHOUSE, LTD.
Directors, JOHN MANNERS,
JAMES H. BACKHOUSE.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1917. [133]

NOTICE.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that Mr. GEORGE PHILIP LAMBERT has been admitted a Partner in this Firm, the Business of which will henceforth be carried on at the same address under the style of WORCESTER & LAMBERT.
W. G. WORCESTER & Co.,
6, Des Voeux Road,
Hongkong, 1st January, 1917. [134]



PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS and CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 8th day of January, 1917, at 3 P.M., at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of CROWN LAND at Kennedy Road, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a CROWN RENT to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of the Lot	Locality	Boundary Measurements (Approximate)	Contents	Area	Value
1	Lot 1 of 1000	1000 ft. by 1000 ft.	1000 sq. ft.	1000	1000
2	Lot 2 of 1000	1000 ft. by 1000 ft.	1000 sq. ft.	1000	1000
3	Lot 3 of 1000	1000 ft. by 1000 ft.	1000 sq. ft.	1000	1000
4	Lot 4 of 1000	1000 ft. by 1000 ft.	1000 sq. ft.	1000	1000
5	Lot 5 of 1000	1000 ft. by 1000 ft.	1000 sq. ft.	1000	1000
6	Lot 6 of 1000	1000 ft. by 1000 ft.	1000 sq. ft.	1000	1000
7	Lot 7 of 1000	1000 ft. by 1000 ft.	1000 sq. ft.	1000	1000
8	Lot 8 of 1000	1000 ft. by 1000 ft.	1000 sq. ft.	1000	1000
9	Lot 9 of 1000	1000 ft. by 1000 ft.	1000 sq. ft.	1000	1000
10	Lot 10 of 1000	1000 ft. by 1000 ft.	1000 sq. ft.	1000	1000

INTIMATIONS

THE CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

6% FIRST MORTGAGE DEBENTURES (RAILWAY BONDS).

PAYMENT OF THE HALF-YEARLY INTEREST due on 1st January, 1917, will be made on presentation of Coupon No. 9 at any of the undermentioned Banks, viz.:-

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, At Tientsin, Shanghai or Hongkong.
CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA, At Hongkong.
RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK, At Tientsin and Hongkong only.
BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE, At Hongkong only.
YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, Ltd., At Tientsin and Hongkong only.
BANQUE BELGE POUR L'EXTRANGER, At Tientsin only.

The Interest, less Income Tax at 5% in the £ will be paid as follows:-

On £20 Bonds.	s.	d.
Per Coupon (Gross)	12	0
Less Tax at 5% in the £	3	0
Net amount payable	9	0

On £100 Bonds.	£	s.	d.
Per Coupon (Gross)	3	0	0
Less Tax at 5% in the £	10	0	0
Net amount payable	22	5	0

On £500 Bonds.	£	s.	d.
Per Coupon (Gross)	15	0	0
Less Tax at 5% in the £	2	15	0
Net amount payable	21	15	0

Payment will be made in Tientsin at the Demand. Paying rate of exchange of the day the Coupon is presented.

By Order,
THE KAILAN MINING ADMINISTRATION,
W. S. NATHAN,
General Manager. [123]

THE CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

SIX PER CENT FIRST MORTGAGE DEBENTURES (RAILWAY BONDS).

FOURTH DRAWING.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in conformity with the conditions endorsed upon the Debentures, the undermentioned numbers of Debentures of the total value of \$24,000 were drawn on the Second day of November, 1916, at the Office of the Company, No. 22, Austin Friars, in the City of London, in the presence of WATSON FITZMAURICE TURNER, one of the Directors, ALFRED WILLIAM BERRY, Secretary of the Company, and JOHN WILLIAM PETER JAURALDE, of 7/8, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C., Notary Public.

The said Debentures will be paid off at par on the 30th December, 1916, at either of the following places:-

In London:-At the Transfer Office of the Company, No. 2, London Wall Building, E.C. 4.
In China:-At the General Offices of the Company, Tientsin.

5 BONDS OF £500 EACH, NUMBERED:-

31 110 126 140 263

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:-

517 539 552 574 632 605 718 743 740 786 954 977 1036 1044 1163 1164 1323 1327 1530 1573 1586 1758 1763 1876 1883 2010 2062 2110 2144 2187 2729 2925 2941 3012 3034 2874 3039 3081 3232 2943 3040 3039 3135 3137 3153 3168 3201 3202 3215 3233 3314 3368 3404 3494 3504 3506 3597 3600 3617 3629 3709 3743

725 BONDS OF £20 EACH, NUMBERED:-

3798 3943 4066 4129 4192 4240 4270 4334 4376 4441 4542 4608 4632 4631 4636 4680 4805 5026 5077 5214 5239 5282 5266 5340 5365 5369 5414 5493 5536 5528 5581 5622 5641 5673 5717 5772 5775 5807 5810 5849 5869 5883 6039 6221 6228 6280 6273 6349 6368 6385 6393 6462 6500 6514 6523 6589 6591 6606 6614 6636 6644 6744 6801 6870 6902 6908 6936 6956 7071 7079 7115 7140 7258 7261 7499 7534 7650 7711 7739 7807 7971 8034 8420 8546 8520 8253 8316 8374 8768 8840 8573 8631 8695 8731 8768 8840 8854 8924 8961 8990 9012 9074 9077 9133 9153 9184 9190 9263 9282 9450 9553 9603 9754 9785 9840 9903 10018 10116 10182 10251 10357 10443 10474 10513 10521 10648 10665 10735 10871 10894 10948 10968 11031 11034 11067 11088 11110 11332 11357 11418 11452 11476 11512 11530 11538 11556 11566 11617 11630 11748 11708 11807 11830 11841 11845 11869 11914 11950 12020 12042 12163 12183 12217 12241 12300 12327 12359 12375 12704 12709 12834 12923 12987 13010 13027 13063 13121 13133 13140 13148 13169 13270 13411 13476 13477 13514 13523 13525 13527 13638 13741 13756 13815 13848 13930 13960 13998 14063 14077 14222 14243 14291 14377 14396 14402 14437 14440 14573 14628 14633 14645 14678 14731 14836 14942 15073 15092 15169 15376 15386 15388 15442 15445 15614 15836 15855 15732 15737 15682 15834 16011 16027 16041 16172 16201 16311 16382 16468 16589 16613 16401 16311 16382 16468 16589 16613 16401 16311 16382 16468 16589 16613 17001 17092 17113 17115 17130 17150 17215 17390 17404 17461 17466 17475 17546 17636 17657 17810 17855 17982 18018 18048 18082 18132 18135 18171 18235 18276 18290 18383 18389 18471 18684 18740 18780 18828 18839 19053 19079 19105 19121 19144 19174 19257 19294 19274 19343 19369 19394 19430 19539 19553 19560 19589 19772 19774 19775 19792 19822 19844 19858 19890 20032 20132 20179 20204 20248 20295 20313 20327 20352 20391 20439 20492 20494 20501 20559 20602 20630 20639 20693 20782 20863 20920 20937 20945 21026 21028 21029 21062 21094 21095 21100 21124 21203 21234 21261 21303 21358 21377 21383 21401 21417 21530 21519 21659 21706 21717 21751 21752 21843 21863 21883 21886 21987 22008 22046 22065 22083 22276 22519 22560 22727 22949 22928 23212 23250 23266

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LONDON OFFICE: 181, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG 5TH JANUARY, 1917.

FLOOD PREVENTION IN KWANGTUNG.

THE disastrous floods which have caused such grievous loss of life and property in Kwangtung during recent years led to the appointment on December 13th, 1914, of Admiral TAN HOK HANG as Director-General of the Board of Conservancy Works in the Province. His Excellency promptly arranged for an inspection of the rivers by Mr. H. von HELDENSTAM, the Engineer-in-Chief of the Whampoa Conservancy Board, upon whose advice Capt. G. W. OLIVERSON was engaged to make a detailed survey as a necessary preliminary to the preparation of a practical scheme. The results of the investigations carried out under Capt. OLIVERSON'S supervision during the twelve months ended in June last are embodied in an exhaustive report which has just been issued, and they show the thoroughness with which the work has been performed. It is pointed out that the West River has a total length of about 1,790 kilometers and drains an area of 339,000 square kilometers. For the greater part of their course, the river and its tributaries pass through a mountainous region, only the last 140 kilometers falling within the delta formation. This formation embraces an area of about 8,000 square kilometers and is penetrated by an immense number of channels, formed partly by Nature and partly by man. On account of the steep mountains and the gradients of the valleys, the run-off during rainfalls occurs with such rapidity that the water-level rises considerably in a short time, and the rivers swell to foaming torrents which inundate the land and cause erosion and landslides on the mountain slopes. During the floods of 1914, for example, the gauge at Wuchow indicated a rise of 6.76 metres in 24 hours. No fewer than seven different proposals for preventing the flooding

of the adjacent low-lying country have been carefully investigated. Owing to a rumour that the extreme flood in the Kwei-kiang during 1914 was due to the demolition of certain weirs and water-gates in the Singan Canal, connecting the West and Yangtze River systems, an expedition was sent to Kwei-kiang, and ascertained that the closing of this means of communication would not produce any noticeable improvement. The creation of an additional outlet for the West River, either to the Tongking Gulf or the South China Sea, which has been frequently suggested, has been found to be impracticable owing to the intervening mountain ranges. Even if the natural conditions were more favourable it is considered doubtful whether the construction of a canal would be justified economically on account of its length and the magnitude of the work necessary to divert the large volume of water from the main river that must be disposed of in order to secure the desired end. A circumventing canal passing around the Ling Yang gorge, either to the north or the south, though presenting no technical difficulties, is not regarded as advisable on account of the expense involved. The enlargement or dredging of the present river-bed is also out of the question from a financial point of view. Similarly, the provision of artificial storage reservoirs, such as exist on the Volga and the Mississippi, is dismissed, for the time being at all events, as impracticable. So far as is known, there are no natural lakes of any importance in the West River Valley, and it has not been possible, with the funds and staff at the disposal of the Conservancy Board, to ascertain if there are suitable sites available for reservoirs. Information obtained, however, from native and foreign travellers shows that at least the main tributaries—Yuk-kiang, Hungshui-kiang, and Lin-kiang—flow through wide, cultivated valleys with scattered towns and villages, and these conditions are not promising for the location of reservoirs. Moreover, a complete reservoir system in the West River would concern Kwangtung, Kwangsi, Yunnan and possibly Kweichow, and the political complications which this might give rise to cannot be overlooked. A rough estimate of the cost of such a scheme works out at no less than 51 million Hongkong dollars. With regard to afforestation, which has been so frequently urged, it is pointed out that it must not be taken for granted that this is an absolute prevention of floods in all cases. In any event, to be effective it would have to be carried out on such a large scale that its influence could not be felt for many years. From another point of view, however, afforestation would serve a very useful purpose. Through lack of cover by vegetation, the mountains are now freely exposed to erosion, and, besides, their surfaces are brought to a state of decomposition. Heavy showers, which are frequent in these regions, carry quantities of decomposed matter down into the river valleys, and this accounts for the silt deposits met with in their lower courses. A scheme of afforestation on the mountain slopes in the vicinity of the rivers would keep the soil in place and would be justified for that purpose alone. But a much more important circumstance to be considered is the general economic benefit to be derived by the whole country from forest cultivation. This speaks in favour of the adoption of an afforestation scheme throughout the West River drainage basin, worked in a scientific way and supported by the authorities as well as by the country-people themselves.

These several projects for protecting the valley and delta of the West River from inundation by lowering the high-water level having been rejected for the reasons set forth, there remained only the alternative of embankments. The present extensive dyke system in Kwangtung originated at least 800 years ago. It represents a prodigious amount of effort and bears witness to a degree of enterprise and skill on the part of past generations not displayed by the present in dealing with problems relating to river regulation. The old dykes were massively and scientifically constructed to an elevation sufficient to prevent overflow from the then prevailing high-water. In course of time, however, owing to alterations in the river-bed, this level has risen, necessitating a corresponding increase in the height of the dykes. Where

this increase has been made, successive additions of earth to the top have been laid without regard to the necessity of proportionately increasing the width of the base. The earth required for the work has, in fact, often been procured from the lower part of the dyke itself, or dug from the ground in the immediate vicinity of the base, thus weakening either the embankment itself or the foundation upon which it rests. Not content with the use of the dyke-slopes for agricultural purposes, the country people do not hesitate to carry on excavations in the dykes in order to gain a few additional square feet of land for their adjacent rice-fields. Indeed, the dykes are to be considered as "no man's land," which everyone has the right to use for his own selfish purposes, instead of being looked upon as the common property of the whole population for the safety of whose life and property they are provided. There are, it is true, committees for every dyke district, formed by delegates from the different communities within the protected area, whose function it is to supervise and carry out necessary repairs. In most cases these committees have no aptitude for dealing in a thorough way with the problems which arise, and their oversight is limited to a part only of the dyke-system. Consequently, a district surrounded by a continuous embankment, on whose solidity and maintenance the safety of the whole enclosed area depends, is often kept under supervision by several committees, each working in its own interest without any co-operation whatsoever. The result is that one part of the embankment may be well kept up while another is left to its fate, one committee being well supplied, the other ill supplied with funds. Even when repairs are undertaken they are carried out unsatisfactorily owing rather to lack of proper planning and supervision than to lack of funds. It seems, therefore, says the Engineer-in-Chief—that one homogeneous organization, with sufficient power, independent of local influences, and possessing the requisite qualifications to overcome technical obstacles, is the only suitable corporation to conduct the supervision. The irregularity which characterizes the present dyke districts, especially in the upper delta, calls for an entire reorganization of the old divisions, into which the dykes have been split without due consideration for their functions. At present there exists a great number of small enclosures, divided by channels and bordered on one or more sides by the main river or some of its tributaries. The dividing channels, natural or artificial, not being closed by watergates, demand a high and substantial dykes as the main river, by combining several of these small enclosures into one large one, surrounded by a continuous dyke, number of sluiceways for irrigation and navigation purposes, a higher degree of uniformity and economy would be attained. The total length of main dykes, constructed and maintained to resist the floods, would evidently be less, and the yearly cost of their upkeep considerably reduced. Within such a large area, it might be necessary to maintain several secondary systems of dykes of a cheaper construction, independent of the main dyke and not exposed to the flood. The prevention of inundation for a district depends entirely upon the main dykes, which should be the property of the Government and maintained out of public funds. The secondary dykes might be the property of one or several villages and might also be maintained by them. If these should break because of poor upkeep the damage would be only local and of slight extent. A careful investigation in detail of the present dyke districts, not only within the vicinity of the West River, but also along the North and East Rivers; and, last but not least, throughout the delta, must precede any reorganization and systematization of the present division into districts. The outline necessary to bring into effect the improvements immediately proposed, which comprise a reconstruction project for the West River with certain regions along the North River above and below Sam-shui, is estimated at Hongkong dollars, 11,369,000, divided over a period of six years' work. This programme covers, however, only about one third of the total work and cost for a complete reconstruction project of the main dykes and watergates within the total area now subject to inundation in the province of Kwangtung. Roughly estimated, the whole amount required for the entire project is in round figures, 34,000,000 Hongkong dollars. Although a considerable amount, it is suggested that this sum might be raised within the Kwangtung province by levying an annual tax of \$2,300,000 for fifteen years, without burdening the population beyond its power. For the most part the capital spent on labour, construction and materials would remain within the province and would go back to the taxpayers. A rough computation places the agricultural land which would be taxed within the area affected at 4,734 sq. kilometers, or 5,539,000 mu. The yearly tax per mu would thus amount in round figures to 42 cents. In other words, the farmer would have to add yearly 17 to 14 per cent of his net profit for fifteen years in order to bring the dyke systems to completion. There is no reason, however, why other classes of the community, who would benefit, either directly or indirectly, by the improvement should not also participate in the cost. Finally it is suggested that, in order to avoid delay, the necessary funds for proceeding with the first year's work should be raised by means of a foreign or domestic loan.

23269	23417	23450	23518	23518	23638
23823	24005	24013	24016	24077	24088
24115	24289	24295	24305	24341	24359
24407	24494	24508	24552	24545	24556
24613	24627	24630	24631	24648	24682
24683	24705	24739	24784	24779	24793
24838	24998	25215	25221	25233	25241
25304	25314	25381	25391	25393	25395
25405	25532	25593	25597	25599	25634
25694	25812	25857	25861	25923	25931
25937	25985	26033	26038	26038	26040
26072	26014	26033	26036	26045	26071
26091	26028	26046	27059	27079	27265
27314	27540	27417	27462	27611	27645
27670	27701	27765	27831	27836	27849
27881	27895	28038	28046	28070	28081
28091	28243	28256	28273	28319	28396
28422	28459	28468	28479	28503	28532
28551	28615	28671	28743	28770	28807
28935	28984	28978	28985	29038	29088
29042	29344	29361	29369	29423	29440
29474	29532	29538	29549	29574	29612
29639	29738	29739	29742	29743	29744
29745	29824	29839	29843	29892	30000
30050	30070	30106	30168	30192	30257
30305	30353	30393	30410	30458	30564
30665	30659	30643	30689	30734	30771
30782	30845	30905	31076	31155	31299
31303	31456	31463	31544	31549	31573
31619	31651	31673	31681	31709	31760
31793	31809	31906	31934	32008	32044
32094	32116	32162	32160	32233	32255
32413	32414	32520	32521	32659	33014
32414	32561	32752	32756	33107	33108
33115	33143	33147	33160	33178	33298
33203	33300	33336	33340	33366	33622
33622	33659	33660	33660	33667	33674
33646	33672	33793	33955	33796	33807
33846	33861	33904	33920	34096	34161
34301	34280	34244	34345	34307	34383
34506	34550	34625	34669	34845	34894
34700	34776	34825	34914	35012	35014
35038	35062	35095	35111	35126	35155
35162	35178	35197	35230	35232	35245
35261	35261	35276	35302	35317	35376
35382	35400	35450	35582	35614	35683
35584	35550	35634	35672	35697	36023
36032	36201	36298	36352	36476	36599
36492	36732	36780	36856	36857	36862
36859	36859	36860	37049	37073	37087
37107	37145	37244	37244	37244	37244
37313	37315	37383	37389	37395	37407
37477	37614	37646	37657	37674	37681
37719	37724	37732	37773	37838	37885
37977	38018	38042	38129	38167	38224
38290	38284	38296	38306	38410	38438
38474	38515	38532	38548	38587	38615
38635	38665	38667	38705	38870	38926
39015	39122	39146	39153	39174	

The drawn Debitures, with Coupons Nos. 10 to 20 attached, must be left four clear days for examination.

THE WAR.

AMERICAN NOTE TO THE ALLIES VIGOROUSLY DENOUNCED IN U.S. SENATE.

THE "LADY IN THE CASE": MRS. CORNWALLIS WEST AND THE WAR OFFICE. TWO ZEPPELINS DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Franco-Belgian Front. LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT. NEARLY 100 MILES AND ABOUT 2,000,000 TROOPS.

LONDON, January 4th.
Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters states:—The British front in the West now extends to nearly 100 miles, on which we have massed about 2,000,000 troops.

ENEMY ARTILLERY ACTIVE.
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The enemy artillery, in the morning, were very active in the neighbourhood of Souchez and in the southern half of the Ypres salient.

FRENCH FRONT. USUAL CANNONADE.

PARIS, January 4th.
A communiqué states:—There is nothing to report, except the usual cannonade on different parts of the front.

EARLIER CABLES.

FRENCH FRONT. LIVELY ARTILLERY DUELS.

LONDON, January 3rd.
A French communiqué says:—There was a most lively artillery duel north and south of the Somme, in the regions of Rouvroy, Verdun, Armand, Mort Homme, and Bezon Vaux.

The Balkans.

LATEST CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

HEAVY FIGHTING. GOOD WORK BY ROUMANIANS.

PETROGRAD, January 3rd.
A Russian official wireless message states:—The enemy in the Zaloga region entered a trench but was ejected. The enemy on the Moldavian frontier twice took the offensive from Kotumba to the Sulcha River valley, but they were everywhere repulsed. We have regained a portion of the trenches on the height. The Rumanians are conducting attacks northward of the Kazino River. They drove back the enemy eastward of Sopchan and the Upper Suchiza River. Cavalry pursued the enemy, who, reinforced, pressed back the Rumanians to their former positions.

A Russian rifle regiment took by assault the village of Gulianka, to the south-west of the Rimnik River, taking 213 prisoners, along with five cannon and eight machine-guns. They also captured the two adjacent villages.

THE GREEK CRISIS. ATTEMPTS TO EXCITE FEELING AGAINST ENTENTE.

LONDON, January 3rd.
A Greek League of Reservists are attempting to excite feeling against the Entente by services of thanksgiving in the principal towns of Old Greece for the preservation of King Constantine from the bombardment of the Allied Fleet. The Royalist papers in Athens are making most violent attacks upon the Entente, especially upon Great Britain. An immediate declaration of war against the Entente Powers is even demanded, but the immense majority of Greeks are pro-Venezelists and pro-Ententists.

GERMAN REPORT.
MACIN AND JIZITA CAPTURED.
LONDON, January 3rd.
A wireless German message states that Macin and Jizita have been captured.

FRANCE AND ROUMANIA.

PARIS, January 3rd.
In reply to a message from the King of Roumania thanking France for supporting Roumania, M. Poincaré says he is convinced that 1917 will assure victory, and the liberation and repatriation of Roumania.

AUSTRIAN REPORT.

LONDON, January 3rd.
An Austrian official report states:—The Austro-Germans have expelled the enemy from Miera, north-west of Milcov, and repulsed strong enemy attacks on the south-east of Harja, with heavy losses. They have also taken prisoner 130 Russians to the east of Zloczow.

RUSSIAN RETREAT OVER. ON THE EVE OF A BIG BATTLE.

LONDON, January 5th.
The long, stubborn Russian retreat to the Sereth line, stretching across the Lowlands on the threshold of Moldavia is now virtually over.

As Falkenhayn's army is approaching Focsani and Fundeni Bridge-head positions, the two main points in this fifty mile line of fortifications it seems clear that the two armies are on the eve of a big battle which will have important consequences.

EARLIER CABLES. MESOPOTAMIAN MOVEMENTS.

LONDON, January 3rd.
An official report from Mesopotamia states:—Despite heavy rains, we have further progressed on the right bank of the Tigris, to the east and north-east of Kut-el-Amara.

RUSSIAN EXPOSURE. FALSE GERMAN CLAIMS.

LONDON, January 2nd.
It is evident from a Russian communiqué that the German claim, that the Allies have been thrown back to the Braila bridgehead, is inaccurate. The composite Danube Army, during the latter phases of the campaign, has lagged behind General Falkenhayn's Army, and the Russians have always been able to deal with it.

The facts are that the Russians, in order to preserve an even front with the retreating army further west, voluntarily retired under cover of night to strong positions at the bridgehead. This movement was effected without pressure from the enemy.

The Germans also alleged that the bridgehead, which is from ten to twenty miles from the port itself, was being continually attacked, but they are silent on the point to-day, because they have met with a reverse. They struck at the middle of the line, but were flung back in disorder. The enemy's lines are now about twelve miles from Braila.

BULGARIA'S WORK.

CLAIMED TO BE SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED.
AMSTERDAM, January 2nd.
A telegram from Sofia states that the Premier, in the Sobranje, declared that Bulgaria's work had been successfully concluded. He replied to criticisms of the Bulgarians' crossing the Danube, and stated that all Austro-Germans in Bulgaria were subject to the Bulgarian Chief of Command.

THE GREEK CRISIS. ISLANDS FORSAKE CONSTANTINE

LONDON, January 2nd.
Reuter learns that the islands of Psara and Imbros have thrown off their allegiance to King Constantine.

THE KING IN A QUANDARY.

ATHENS, January 3rd.
The situation is one of utmost uncertainty. The King is finding much difficulty in replying to the Allies' demands, owing to the attitude of the populace.

AUSTRO-GERMAN MESSAGE.

LONDON, January 3rd.
A wireless German official message says that the Archduke Joseph repulsed with heavy losses strong attacks against Mount Faltunau, and stormed several hills between Susita Valley and Putna Valley. He also repulsed Russo-Rumanian counter-attacks and occupied Barceci and Topesci after a battle.

General von Mackensen is further progressing and has stormed three positions in the Focsani region. He pushed back the Russians in the Dobrudja, despite their stubborn resistance.

A YEAR'S AERIAL WARFARE.

ALLIES' SPLENDID RECORD.
PARIS, January 2nd.
The Allies in 1916 carried out 750 aerial bombardments, of which the French were responsible for 250 and the British for 180. From Salonika, 174 bombardments were carried out. The French brought down 430 aeroplanes and 40 balloons, while the British felled 250 aeroplanes and 27 balloons.

Naval Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]
SUBMARINE PIRACY.
MORE SINKINGS.
LONDON, January 3rd.
The following steamers have been sunk:—The *Aconagua* (French), *Goosebridge* (Swedish), *Hollybranch* (British), *Erica* (Norwegian).

General.

LATEST CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]
MEXICAN CONSUL-GENERAL ARRESTED.
NEW YORK, January 3rd.
The Mexican Consul-General has been arrested and charged with being concerned in a conspiracy to ship arms and ammunition to Vera Cruz, in violation of President Wilson's embargo Proclamation of October, 1915.

DUTCH FLEET.

NO INCREASE FOR SOME YEARS.
AMSTERDAM, January 4th.
Dutch papers, commenting on the Naval estimates, say that they show that no increase of the Dutch fleet is possible for some years.

GERMAN ACCUSATIONS. DUTCH RIDICULE.

AMSTERDAM, January 4th.
Dutch papers scout the German accusations of British mine-laying, and point out that no mine person would believe that Britain would lay mines on British sea routes, where enemy ships are non-existent.

REPATRIATION OF CIVILIANS. ANGLO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

LONDON, January 4th.
An Anglo-German agreement for the repatriation of all interned civilians over 45 years of age, except twenty on each side, is now completed. It applies to the whole Empire. Germany has agreed to the inclusion of retired naval and military men not receiving pay, even though in receipt of pensions.

TWO ZEPPELINS DESTROYED. BY FIRE IN A SHED.

COPENHAGEN, January 4th.
Two Zeppelins have been destroyed by fire, in a shed at Tondern, Schleswig, due to short circuit of electric current.

THE "LADY IN THE CASE." MRS. CORNWALLIS WEST AND THE WAR OFFICE.

LONDON, January 3rd.
The report of the Military Court held on December 22nd, gives details of the case of 2nd-Lieut. Patrick Bennett, of the *Wentworth*. It says that when Barrett was recommended for a commission his claims were supported by Colonel Sir John Stevens Cowan and Mrs. Cornwallis West. The last-named took a more than ordinary interest in Barrett, who failed to respond. Eventually he wrote Mrs. Cornwallis West a letter of remonstrance, which the latter sent to his Commander, as a result of which Barrett was censured and transferred to another Battalion. The report characterises Mrs. Cornwallis West's conduct as highly discreditable, both in her behaviour towards Barrett before his letter and her vindictive attempts to injure him afterwards, and her untruthful evidence before the Court. Mrs. Cornwallis West's attempt to influence the War Office is also mentioned in the case of Brigadier Owen Thomas.

THE AMERICAN NOTE.

VIGOROUSLY DENOUNCED IN THE SENATE.

WASHINGTON, January 4th.
A significant debate has taken place in the Senate. A resolution endorsing President Wilson's Note as lodged was vigorously opposed, and it was declared that Congress cannot be expected to respond to clamour for a peace which is not worth having. President Wilson's Note, it was said, had laid the United States open to the charge of partisanship. The debate was adjourned.

This debate indicates that the Senate is likely to be anti-Wilson.

ALLIES REPLY STILL BEING DRAFTED.

Reuter has been informed that the Allies' reply to President Wilson's Note is still in course of being drafted.

Whereas the reply to Germany was purposely negative regarding terms, rehearsing only conditions of peace which were not acceptable, it is expected that the Answer to President Wilson will indicate more precisely the only preliminaries on which the Allies are prepared to negotiate.

BRITISH FOOD SUPPLY.

THE USE OF CEREALS TO FEED GAME.
LONDON, January 5th.
A drastic Order is expected prohibiting the use of cereals to feed game. This is a heavy blow to game preservation.

GEN. MURRAY'S THANKS.

FOR "BIG BROTHER'S CONGRATULATIONS."
CAIRO, January 5th.
Replying to a telegram of congratulation from Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig on the success of the El Arish operations, General Murray says:—"We are most grateful for our big brother's congratulations."

COPPER FOR MUNITIONS: UNCONTRACTED STOCKS TAKEN OVER.

LONDON, January 5th.
The Minister of Munitions is taking over, on current quotations, all unwrought copper not yet contracted for.

MARKET PRICE OF TEAS.

It is understood that the Indian Tea Association is issuing a freight statement, and the *Times* points out that Indian merchants have at present an advantage over Ceylon merchants owing to a fixed shipping rate agreement of five years' duration, which expires in September next. The present Indian freight is equivalent to a halfpenny per pound, Ceylon ruling at 2d. While the market price of the teas is approximately the same now, it is suggested that Indian merchants should agree to a freight increase of 50/-, ton measurement. There appears to be general approval of the principle of some advance.

NOTORIOUS MONK'S DEATH. DEPRAVED AND UNIVERSALLY EXECRATED.

LONDON, January 5th.
Rasputin's end smacks of mediocrity. He exercised a most malign influence in Russian society, and even in the Court he was known to be a leading pro-German. According to Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd there were three bullet wounds in his head and chest. He was killed at Petrograd House, the residence of one of the most aristocratic families in Russia. The body was afterwards conveyed to the mouth of the Neva in a motor car and dropped through the ice. The names of the assistants in the deed are generally known. The whole of Russia breathes more freely at the removal of a man of baneful influence and notorious depravity, who was universally execrated.

EARLIER CABLES.

BODY FOUND ON NEVA'S BANK.

PETROGRAD, January 3rd.
The body of the notorious monk, Rasputin, has been found on the bank of the Neva.

A BLOCKADE OF BELGIUM.

LORD FRENCH'S VIEW.

JANUARY 2ND.
Lord French, interviewed by a correspondent of the *Chicago Daily News*, expressed the opinion that there was a danger of Germany's over-running small neutrals adjacent to her. It was estimated that the direct cost to the Allies of feeding Belgium was £22,000,000, but the indirect cost was far greater, for Germany had robbed Belgium of £125,000,000. He pointed out that the strictly military interests of the Allies would have been best served by a blockade of Belgium, which, moreover, the Hague Convention permitted.

ENEMY PEACE TERMS. TO BE COMMUNICATED TO PRESIDENT WILSON.

AMSTERDAM, January 3rd.
The *Frankfurter Zeitung* says that Count Julius Andrássy has announced that the Central Powers' peace terms will be communicated to President Wilson.

INDIAN LAW'S DELAYS. SUGGESTED SCHEME OF PREVENTION.

JANUARY 2ND.
In connection with the protraction of Indian litigation, the *Times* strongly endorses the suggestion of a correspondent that the Indian High Courts should be given "in delay" powers similar to those of the English and Dominion Courts, to constrain the appellant to prosecute his appeal diligently, and also to prescribe a reasonable period in which the record must be transmitted to England.

CONDITIONS IN GERMANY. SCARCITY OF FOOD, DISTURBANCES AND DISCONTENT.

AMSTERDAM, January 3rd.
The *Telegraaf* has interviewed a neutral who has long been a resident of Kiel. He says there is great scarcity of foodstuffs, there are frequent disturbances, dissatisfied workmen are being sent to the front, and the submarine losses are enormous.

HOME PRODUCTION OF FOOD. GOVERNMENT MEASURES.

LONDON, January 3rd.
Mr. R. E. Prothero, the President of the Board of Agriculture, has appointed an Advisory Committee of ten farmers and agricultural experts to assist in the scheme for increasing the home production of food. Agricultural War Committees have been established in English counties, and a joint conference will shortly be held in London.

A NEW IMPERIAL ORDER.

LONDON, January 3rd.
The *Daily Express* forebodes the institution of a new Imperial Order in the next hours.

ALLIES' PEACE REPLY. DEMAND FOR RENEVED FRIGHTFULNESS.

AMSTERDAM, January 2nd.
The National Liberal organs profess regret at the Entente's rejection of Germany's peace offer. The Junker newspapers demand renewed frightfulness.

"PEACE DREAM OVER."

JANUARY 3RD.
"The peace dream is over for the present." This is the keynote of the German press comments on the Allies' reply.

The papers complain of the Allies' "brutal rejection of Germany's efforts towards peace," and then make blood-curdling threats as to what will happen in the spring.

The *Local Anzeiger*, the organ of the German Foreign Office, says that the shallowness, levity and mendacity of the Allies contrast so strongly with what must follow that it is difficult to explain how ten serious men were able to sign such a document so unblushingly reactionary.

The *Taeigliche Rundschau* goes further, and says "Woe to the heads of the States who have to answer for useless bloodshed."

FIELD-MARSHAL HAIG'S MESSAGE TO LABOUR.

THE CONDITIONS OF TRIUMPH.

LONDON, January 3rd.
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a letter to Mr. Ben Tillett, says:—"Toll Labour that the best Christmas present it can make to its comrades in the field is that nothing in 1917 shall hinder a regular, constant and increasing output of munitions and material. If the munition workers and the troops in the trenches pull together, triumph is certain."

A BERLIN CONFERENCE.

AMSTERDAM, January 3rd.
The Presidents and Vice Presidents of the Parliaments of enemy countries are to hold a Conference in Berlin on the 19th inst.

ITALY'S FINE RECORD.

CAPTURES IN TERRITORY AND IN MEN.

ROME, January 3rd.
Italy notifies that she has conquered 1,200 square miles of enemy territory, and has shortened her front by 125 miles. She has taken 85,000 Austrians prisoner, and has 460,000 munition makers at work, of which 73,000 are women.

THE MEXICAN TROUBLE.

A MORE HOPEFUL OUTLOOK.

WASHINGTON, January 3rd.
The difficulties between America and Mexico appear to be smoothing themselves out. Mr. Fletcher is leaving Washington to assume his Ambassadorship in Mexico City.

FLOODS IN QUEENSLAND.

DISASTROUS RESULTS.

BRISBANE, January 3rd.
Record floods have occurred in Northern and Central Queensland. One hundred people were drowned at Clermont. The disaster occurred on December 27th, when there were fifteen inches of rain.

WRECK OF A JAPANESE STEAMER.

GALLANT RESCUE OFF CHEFOO.

SHANGHAI, January 3rd.

Details are to hand of the wreck of the Japanese steamer *Hankaka Maru*, off Chefoo, on Christmas Day, in a blizzard. Owing to the terrible seas, rescue was impossible for three days. Then Captain Stampo, of the Netherland Harbour Works, with some Chinese, in a tug, most gallantly saved fifty out of four hundred.

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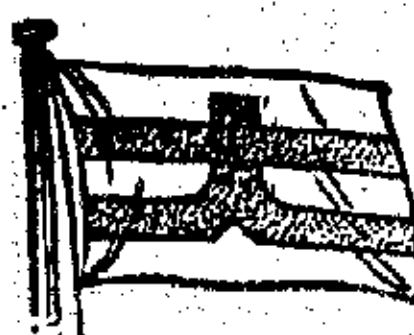
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